Indian business community in Nepal

3869. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nepal's Indian Business Community stung by a series of abduction, extortion demands and other threats are moving to safer places like India, China and Dubai; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) There are no known cases of exit of Indian businesses and business community on any major scale out of Nepal on grounds of abduction, extortion and other threats. However, reports have appeared of some Nepali businesspersons of Indian origin exploring possibilities of moving their businesses to other countries.

Restriction on movement of Indian Ambassadors

†3870. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fresh restrictions have been imposed by Pakistan on the movement of Indian Ambassadors in January, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether these restrictions are not motivated with prejudices;

(c) whether the Central Government have objected to the said restrictions imposed by Government of Pakistan on the movement of Indian diplomats; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) Both Indian and Pakistani Diplomats posted in each other's country require prior permission to travel outside the respective capital cities. Modalities for liberalising this travel regime are currently being discussed.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.